**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 504th Public Meeting held at 19.15 on Tuesday 1st May 2018**

**in The Hope Rooms, Forth Street, North Berwick**

**Present:**Cllr Claire Mackenzie – Acting Chair, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllr Judy Lockhart – Treasurer, Cllrs Lewis Foster, Gordon Moodie, William Macnair, Lesley Kay, Sue Northrop. Olwyn Owen, Geraldine Prince & Ian Watson

**In attendance:**Peter Hamilton, ELC Cllr Jane Henderson, ELC Cllr Jim Goodfellow, 3 members of the public and local press.

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Acting Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the 504th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs T Todd & L Foster and PCs D Gray & I Paterson |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes**  | Adoption of the Minutes held on 3rd April, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Northrop and seconded by Cllr Moodie. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising**  | 4.1 ***4.1*** The local workshop on the Council’s draft Transport Strategy had taken place in the Hope Rooms on 19th April and not 26th April as previously noted. As the deadline for the response to the consultation was approaching Hilary Smith, Chair of the Area Partnership, offered to share the Area Partnership’s response with the Community Council and this was agreed.4.2 ***10.5*** Cllr Smith confirmed that a letter regarding the sewerage pipe and the erosion caused by the recent storm and had been drafted. It was confirmed that it should be sent to Scottish Water, SEPA, ELC and MSP. Cllr Macnair commented that he had received favourable comments from his recent letter to the *Courier*. ELC Cllr Goodfellow confirmed that following the inspection by the Council’s flood engineer a letter had been sent to Scottish Water and a response was awaited.4.3 ***15.1***Cllr Smith commented that the deadline for the Scottish Parliament’s Economy, Jobs & Fair Work Committee inquiry into the impact of bank closures, discussion of which had been deferred to this meeting, had been 13th April so the opportunity for comment had been missed.4.4 ***16.1*** The date of the public meeting to discuss the re-provision of the Abbey and the Edington was confirmed as 9th May in St Andrew Blackadder Church. |  |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 5.1 In the absence of the police Cllr Smith read out this month’s police report which is attached separately. 5.2 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 30th May in the Old Council Chambers.Feedback welcome to NorthBerwickCoastalCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk or deborah.gray@scotland.pnn.police.uk and john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk. |  |
| **6 Planning Matters (attached separately)** | 6.1 The April planning applications were led by Cllrs Moodie and Northrop. 6.2 List A (previously circulated) – no comments.6.3 ***Erection of 1 house and associated works at rear of 11 Glenorchy Road:*** After discussion it was agreed that, as the revised proposal was an improvement on the previous one, there were no concerns and the application should be moved to List A.6.4 ***24 & 26 Westgate:*** After discussion it was agreed to object to the proposal to form vehicular accesses, a hardstanding area, erect gates, railings and a fence to create off street parking as this would result in the loss of parking spaces in the street and create a potential safety risk to pedestrians and vehicles on the busy main exit road from the town.6.5 ***22 Lord President Road:*** After discussion it was agreed to object to the erection of 1 house, change of use of public space to form vehicular access and associated works on the grounds of overdevelopment of the plot and neighbours being overlooked.6.6 ***NBGC Coastal Erosion update:*** Cllr Smith commented that North Berwick Golf Club expected their planning application in the first phase of the coastal erosion work to be heard at the June Planning Committee Meeting.6.7 ***Points of contact:*** Cllr Smithhad been askedfor points of contact for the planning lists from ELC. This had arisen as the result of a letter to the Chief Executive by a delegation from the Association of East Lothian Community Councils asking for a meeting to discuss concerns regarding the exclusion of community councils from certain planning matters. It was agreed that the Secretary should be the initial point of contact with the Chairman as deputy.6.9 ***Collaboration with North Berwick Environment Trust:*** NBET was offering to share its preparatory ground work in looking at planning applications with the Community Council. It was agreed that this would be useful.6.7 Cllrs Northrop & Owen will lead on the planning applications for June’s meeting. | GMGMSN &OO |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report including 2018/19 Budget** | 7.1 The Treasurer reported that an outstanding bill to Vote Pedro and the minute taker’s fee had been settled during the month.7.2 The Treasurer confirmed that there was £18,500 available to be allocated from the local priorities budget for the current financial year. After discussion it was agreed that the following allocations should be made -* Bollards - half total cost of £6070 (*see item 8 below*)
* Christmas Lights - £5000
* Emergency fund - £1000
* Newsletter - £900
* Telephone kiosks - £3700 but dependent upon whether the Area Partnership application for funding for the bollards was successful (*see item 8 below*).

7.3 It was also agreed that donations to the RNLI for the Raft Race (£150) and East Lothian Yacht Club for the annual fireworks display (£500) would be paid from the Community Council’s current account. |  |
| **8 Bollards** | 8.1 The local community funding for the ‘like for like’ replacement of the bollards on Beach Road and the Quadrant would be £6,077. After discussion it was agreed that the Community Council would guarantee half of the cost from its local priory funds and would pitch to the Area Partnership at its Annual Public Meeting on 15th May for the balance. Cllr Lockhart agreed to do the pitch. 8.2 In the event of the application to the Area Partnership being unsuccessful the balance would be taken from the local priority funds and the telephone kiosk project would be put on hold in the meantime. | JL |
| **9 Consultations** | * Statement of Licensing Policy for 2018-2022 – deadline 30th June
* Licensing (Procedures) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 – deadline 6th June
* SFRS - Your Service … Your Voice – deadline 14th May
* A connected Scotland – Tackling social isolation & loneliness – deadline 27th April – Cllr Prince had submitted the Community Council’s response.
* Adult-wellbeing/growing older – proposals for the re- provision of Abbey & Edington – deadline 30th June.
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| **10 Town Plan** | 10.1 Cllr Moodie confirmed that the tender process was proceeding. |  |
| **11 Communications Group** | 11.1 The Group had not met during the last month.11.2 Cllr Northrop had been made an administrator for Facebook.11.3 Cllr Mackenzie reported that the articles for *NB Connect* were now with the *Courier*. |  |
| **12 Reports from Groups & Societies** | 12.1 *St Andrew’s Old Kirk Project:* Cllr Owen confirmed that the interpretation board had been installed at the Kirkports site and another about the old bell would be installed shortly at St Andrew Blackadder. She was to give a talk about the project at the NBET meeting on 10th May.12.2 *Harbour Trust:* Cllr Prince had attended a recent Harbour Trust meeting and was alerting the Community Council to the fact that a facilitator had been appointed in an attempt to resolve the problem with the Seabird Centre. ELC Cllr Henderson explained that ELC had appointed an independent facilitator and the next step would be to work out the structure of the group and which other bodies could be introduced.12.3 *Health & Wellbeing:* Cllr Northrop confirmed that Deborah Ritchie would be chairing the public meeting on 9th May.12.4 *Community Day:* Cllr Northrop confirmed that this event would be taking place in St Andrew Blackadder on 8th June. Local organisations were being invited to take a table. |  |
| **13 Correspondence** | The following communications had been received –* Notice of a public meeting on the local rail services on Thursday 3rd May at 7.00 pm in Prestonpans Town Hall.
* Notice that concessionary rail travel would be abolished with effect from 21st May.
* Copy of an e-mail from a neighbour notifying the owners of The Puffin in the High Street that she had contacted the planning department regarding loss of privacy and light pollution resulting from recent work at the property.
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| **14 Any other competent business** | 14.1 *Grange Road:* Cllr Mackenzie reported that a survey of the speed in Grange Road had been carried out which indicated that, although the average speed was 25 mph, 85% of vehicles were travelling at 29 mph. As she felt this was too fast she proposed that a request be made for a trial speed of 20 mph. Cllr Macnair commented that the problem was only around the school. ELC Cllr Goodfellow commented that further consultation with the community was required.14.2 *Resignation of Chairman:* Cllr Mackenzie read out a letter from Cllr Todd intimating his resignation as Chairman of the Community Council with immediate effect. She thanked him for his contribution to the community during his 18 months as a community councillor. |  |
| **15 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 5th June 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |